

EXTENDING RHODE ISLAND AVENUE.

JUNE 23, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. RICHARDSON, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 4571.]

The Committee on the District of Columbia have considered H. R. bills Nos. 10383 and 10399, being bills to extend Rhode Island avenue, and make the following report:

The committee find that the Senate has considered and passed, on June 16, 1898, a bill, being Senate bill No. 4571, for the same object and purpose, which said bill has also been considered by the committee. The committee are of opinion that Rhode Island avenue should be opened and extended as provided in said bills. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia have considered these bills and have submitted to this committee a favorable report thereon in a letter of June 7th, instant, to the chairman of this committee. Said letter is in the following words:

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
Washington, June 7, 1898.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners have the honor to submit the following on H. R. bills 10383 and 10399, Fifty-fifth Congress, second session, to extend Rhode Island avenue, referred to them by your committee for report:

Rhode Island avenue is now open from its western end to Le Droit Park, and from Fourth street NE. to the District line. The portion covered by this bill is the only part of the entire avenue which it is necessary to acquire to open the avenue through subdivided land. As this portion is oversubdivided land, held in small parcels and by different owners, it is evident that they can not afford to dedicate, since to do so would amount practically to surrendering their property without receiving equivalent return.

Under these circumstances it would appear that condemnation proceedings offer the only means of acquiring the land for the opening of the street, and as it is an exceedingly important thoroughfare, a favorable recommendation is made on the bill.

The amount of land to be taken is 81,440 square feet. The value of land—estimated from recent sales as far as can be ascertained—is about \$1 per foot, making the estimated cost for the necessary land \$81,440.

A plat is inclosed herewith showing by red color the part of the avenue to be acquired.

Very respectfully, yours,

JOHN B. WIGHT,
President Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia.

Hon. J. W. BABCOCK,
Chairman Committee on the District of Columbia, House of Representatives.

The committee report Senate bill 4571 with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendments:

In line 10 strike out the word "seventy-five" and insert in lieu thereof the word "fifty."

In line 12 strike out the word "one-half" and insert in lieu thereof the word "all."

Thus amended, the committee recommend that the Senate bill do pass, and that the House bill mentioned lie upon the table.

